

Message Text

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ACTION CEQ-02

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 AGR-20 INT-08 DOTE-00 HUD-02

AID-20 CIAE-00 COA-02 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-11 EPA-04

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SENV, UR

SUBJ: UR-USSR ENVIRONMENTAL AGREEMENT

SIBERIAN TIGER PROJECT

REF: A. STATE 160885 B. STATE 176967

1. KRINITSKIY REPORTS THAT THE VISIT OF DR. HORNOCKER TO CONDUCT RESEARCH PROJECT INVOLVING THE SIBERIAN TIGER (REF A) IS NOT POSSIBLE THIS YEAR. HE BELIEVES THAT DETAILS OF SUCH A COOPERATIVE PROJECT, WITH POSSIBLE RETURN STUDY OF AMERICAN MOUNTAIN LION, REQUIRE CAREFUL EXAMINATION BY JOINT WORKING GROUP AND SHOULD BE WORKED OUT BY THAT GROUP. HE HAS STRONG MISGIVINGS ABOUT CONDUCTING SIGNIFICANT NEW PROJECTS THAT WERE NOT AGREED UPON DURING JANUARY 1973 MEETING OF JOINT WORKING GROUP, BUT WILL BE PREPARED TO DISCUSS THIS DURING OCT 14 - 28 MEETING IN U.S. IN PARTICULAR, HE FEELS THAT PLANNING FOR SUCH PROJECT REQUIRES, INTER ALIA, PRIOR CONSULTATION WITH SOVIET SCIENTISTS TO DETERMINE WHAT HAS ALREADY BEEN ACCOMPLISHED IN THIS AREA, AND WHAT NEEDS TO BE DONE. PERHAPS, HE SUGGESTS, UNDERTAKING SUCH PROJECT REALLY WOULD NOT BE PROFITABLE BECAUSE IT WOULD DUPLICATE WORK ALREADY

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DONE.

2. AS TO NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC FILM, WHICH WOULD BE FULLY CINEMATIC EFFORT IN CONJUNCTION WITH NOVOSTI (BUT ALL NECESSARY SUPPORT AND ASSISTANCE BEING RENDERED BY SOVIET SIDE OF WORKING GROUP), KRINITSKIY SAYS THAT MID-NOVEMBER FILMING IS UNREALISTIC, MAINLY BECAUSE OF ALL THE RED-TAPE INVOLVED AND BECAUSE OF THE NEED TO DEVELOP COORDINATED AND PRODUCTIVE PLAN OF ACTION. HE IS IN CONSULTATION WITH BOGOMOLOV (NOVOSTI) ON THIS AND WILL REPORT TO U.S. SIDE DURING OCTOBER MEETING PROVIDED NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC INTERESTED IN DOING PROJECT SOME TIME NEXT YEAR. KRINITSKIY BELIEVES THAT IT IS ESSENTIAL TO GO TO FAR EAST TO SCOUT TIGER SITUATION, TO TALK WITH LOCAL OFFICIALS AND, POSSIBLY THROUGH SHORT FIELD TRIP, DETERMINE BEST TIME AND BEST LOCATION FOR FILMING. HE HAS VOLUNTEERED TO DO THIS PERSONALLY DURING HIS NOVEMBER-DECEMBER VISIT TO FAR EAST. HE CLAIMS THAT THIS KIND OF DETAILED PLANNING ESSENTIAL, BECAUSE IT WOULD BE DISASTROUS IF NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC CREW ARRIVED AT SOME SIBERIAN LOCATION "ONLY TO FIND THAT THERE WERE NO TIGERS".
DUBS

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